

REMARKS

Claims 1, 55, 63, and 64 have been amended.

Specifically, changes to claims 1, 55 and 63 can be found from the drawings, Figs. 3-7, and the related description in the specification. The change to claim 64 is to correct an unintended error about the dependency, for overcoming the 112 rejection made thereto.

Entering of the amendment and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully solicited.

Discussion of the claim rejection under 35 USC 112

Claim 64 recites the limitation “sound source entities” in line 1, and is thus rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112.

Responsive thereto, Applicant submits that claim 64 should be depending upon independent claim 63, while has been drafted in error to depend upon independent claim 55. As currently amended, the dependency thereof has been corrected as it should have been.

Discussion of the claim rejection under 35 USC 102

The Office Action rejected claims 1-6, 55-59, and 63-67 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Huang (U.S. 2004/0218775; hereinafter Huang).

In response thereto, Applicants have amended claims 1, 55 and 63, and hereby otherwise traverse these rejections.

Claim 1, as currently amended, recites in parts:

An earphone structure, comprising:

...

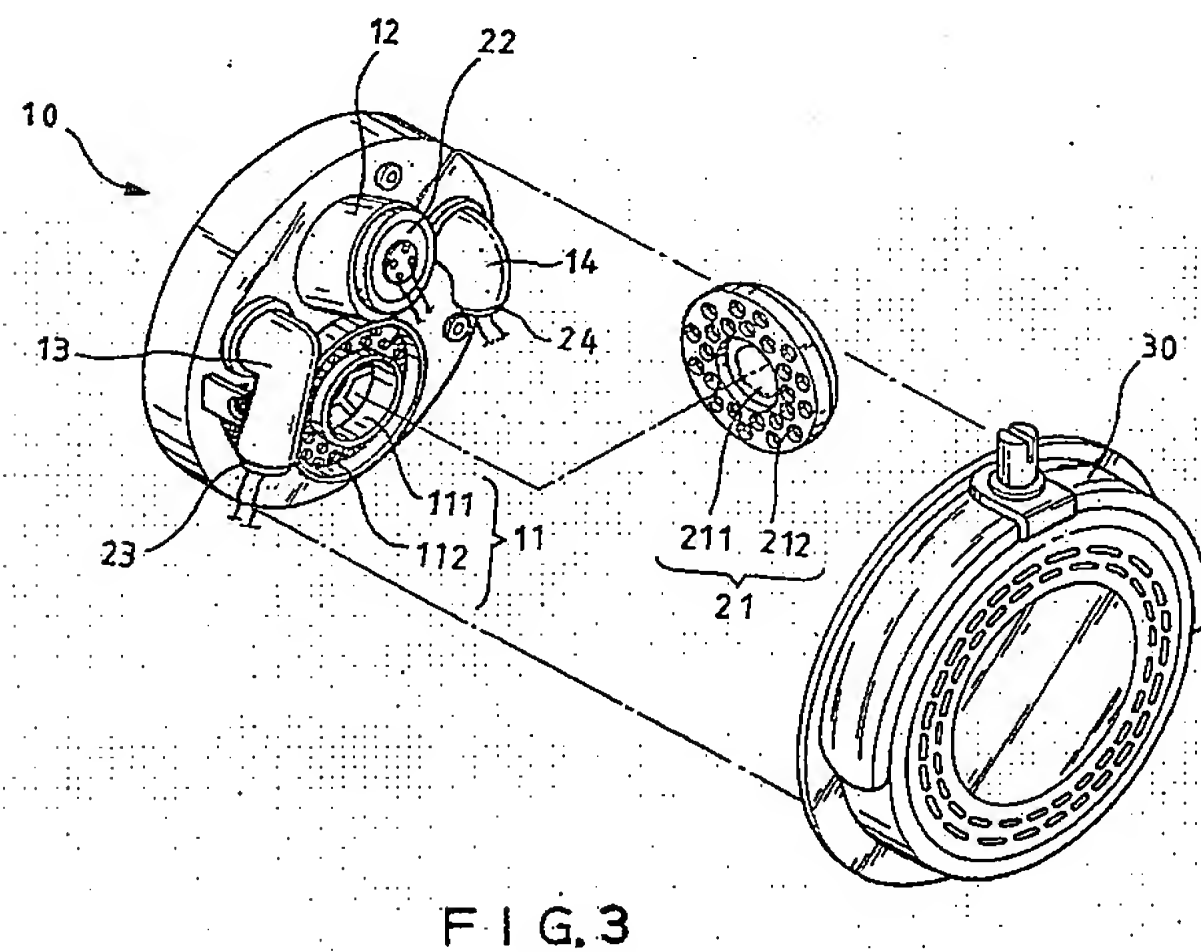
a composite chamber, accommodated in the space defined by the case and the cover, and fixed on the cover, wherein the composite chamber defines a composite room together with the cover on which it is fixed; and

a plurality of sub-speakers fixed on sidewalls of the composite chamber ...

(Emphasis added)

Applicant submits that the present invention, as currently amended is neither taught, disclosed, nor suggested by Huang, or any of the other cited references, taken alone or in combination.

Huang fails to teach “a composite chamber, accommodated in the space defined by the case and the cover, and fixed on the cover, wherein the composite chamber defines a composite room together with the cover on which it is fixed” and “a plurality of sub-speakers fixed on sidewalls of the composite chamber”.



In rejecting claim 1, the Examiner broadly interpreted Huang, and contended: “Huang shows a composite chamber (the chamber in the body 10)”. However, as currently amended, the composite chamber in

claim 1 is defined more clearly and more definitely in which the composite chamber is further defined as “accommodated in the space defined by the case and the cover”. As

such, “the chamber in the body 10” as recited by the Examiner is now directed to the space defined by the case and the cover, while the composite chamber is accommodated therein. The composite chamber in claim 1 is further defined as being fixed on the cover. On the contrary, “the chamber in the body 10” as recited by the Examiner is actually a space and therefore cannot be fixed to anything, e.g., the cover.

As such, for at least the foregoing reasons, claim 1 and its dependent claims 2-6 are submitted to be novel and unobvious over Huang, or any of the other cited references, taken alone or in combination, and thus should be allowed.

Further, claim 55, as currently amended, recites:

An earphone structure disposed inside a space defined by a case and a cover, comprising a composite chamber defining a composite room therein, wherein the case and the cover jointly cover the composite chamber for forming the earphone structure, and the composite chamber receives a plurality of sound source signals from different directions, such that a composite sound field is formed by the sound source signals in the composite room.

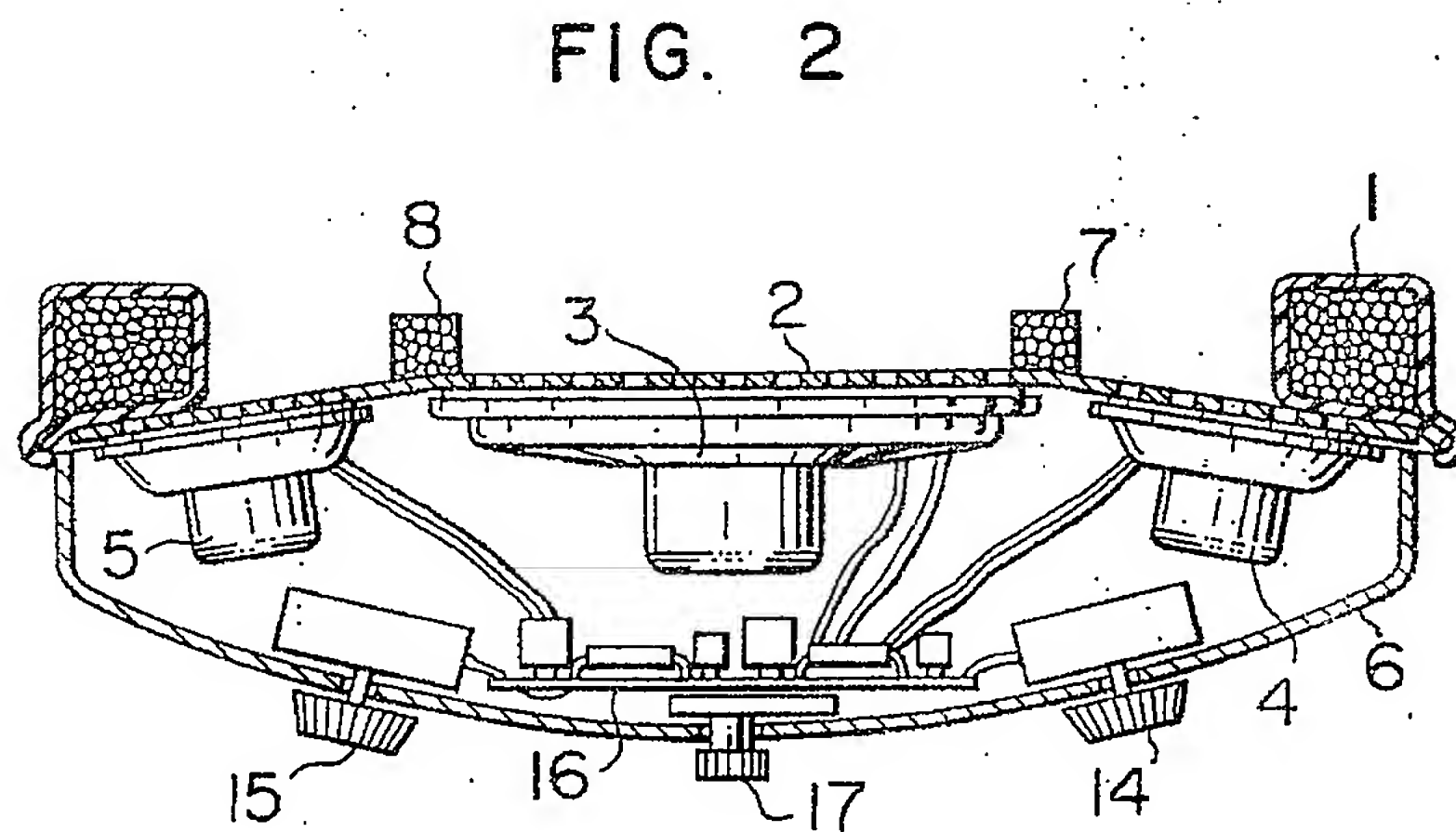
As currently amended, the present invention, as set forth in claim 55, requires a composite chamber inside a space defined by a case and a cover. As such, as discussed above addressing to the allowability of claim 1, Huang fails to teach the composite chamber. Further, the composite chamber is also required to have a composite room defined therein. Applicant finds nowhere of Huang has taught that there are a plurality of sound source signals received in anywhere inside the earphone and forming a sound field therein. In such a way, Huang fails to teach such a composite chamber having such a composite room as defined by claim 55, as currently amended.

Claim 56-59 depend on allowable independent claim 55, and thus should also be allowable.

Claim 63 recites similar allowable subject matter as indicated addressing to claim 55, and therefore, claim 63 and its dependent claims 64-67 are also submitted to be allowable.

The Office Action rejected claims 55-57, and 60-63 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yoshimura et al. (U.S. 3,984,885; hereinafter Yoshimura).

In a similar way, in rejecting claims 55 and 63, the Examiner interpreted, Fig. 2 of Yoshimura, and contended: "Yoshimura teaches ... a composite chamber (the chamber inside the casing 6, figure 2)".



As can be seen in Fig. 2 of Yoshimura cited below, there is no real chamber accommodated in the space defined by the casing.

Further, it is noted that all speakers are directly directed outside the

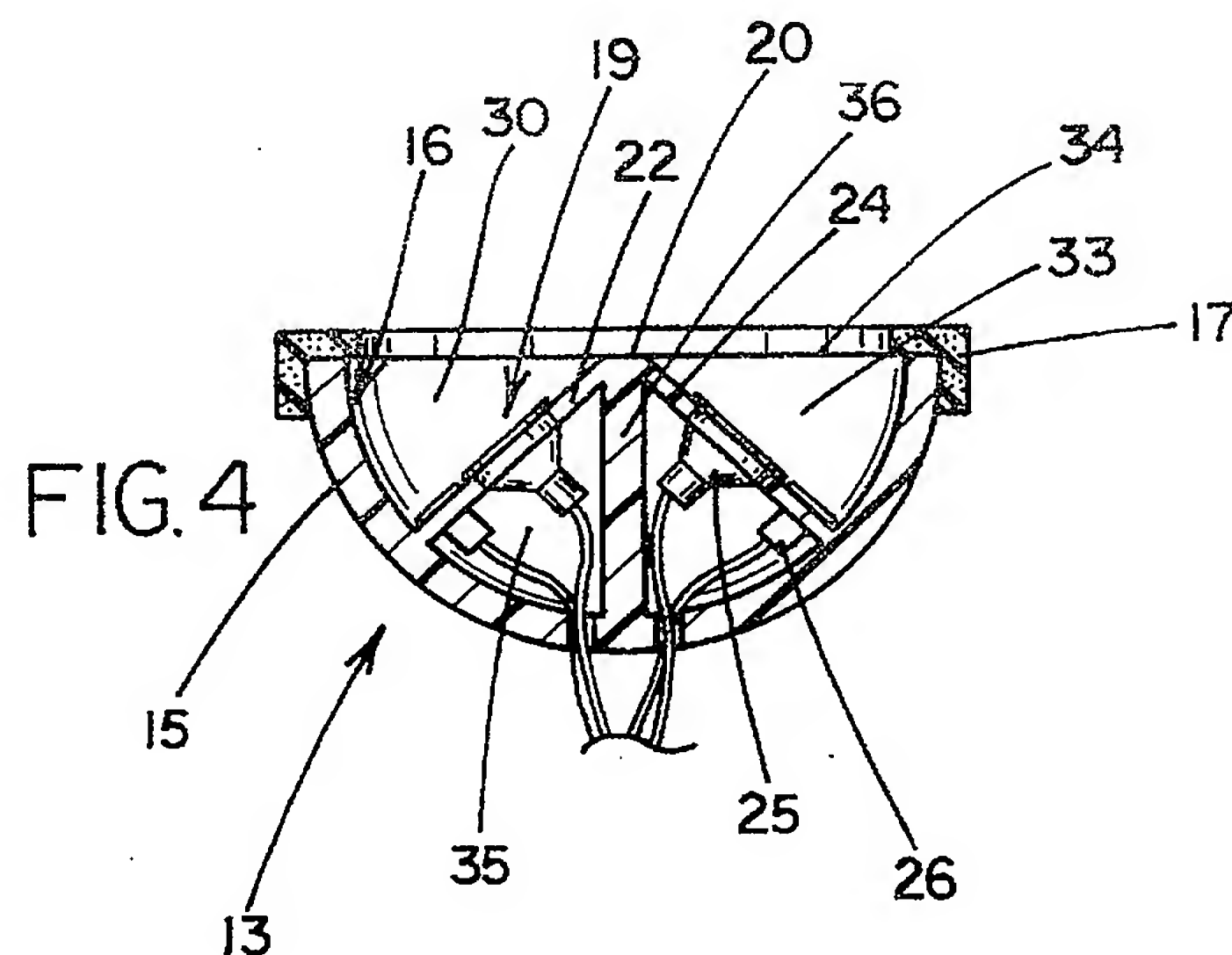
earphone/headphone. As such, there won't be a composite sound field formed by the sound source signals/entities in the composite room which is inside the space defined by the case and the cover.

As such, claims 55, and 63 are submitted to be novel and unobvious over Yoshimura, and thus should be allowed.

Claims 56, 57, 60 and 61 depend upon allowable independent claim 55, and thus should also be allowable.

The Office Action rejected claims 55-57, and 63-65 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Weffer (U.S. 6,263,085; hereinafter Weffer).

Applicant submits that Weffer fails to teach, disclose, or suggest the limitation of "the composite chamber receives a plurality of sound source signals from different directions, such that a composite sound field is formed by the sound source signals/entities in the composite room" as required by claims 55 and 63.



As can be seen from Fig. 4, Weffer teaches speakers 25 and 26 disposed side by side at a triangular face 24, and therefore, they are adapted to provide sound source signals/entities in parallel or in a same direction.

As such, Weffer fails to teach the limitation of “the composite chamber receives a plurality of sound source signals (entities) **from different directions**” which is required by claims 55 and 63.

For at least the foregoing reasons, claims 55, 63, and their dependent claims 54-57, and 64-65 are submitted to be novel and unobvious over Weffer, or any of the other cited references, taken alone or in combination, and thus should be allowed.

Discussion of the claim rejection under 35 USC 103

The Office Action rejected claims 16-18, 60-62, and 68-70 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Huang.

The Office Action rejected claims 60-62, and 68-70 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Weffer.

Claims 16-18 depend on allowable independent claim 1, and thus should also be allowed.

Claims 60-62, depend on allowable independent claim 55, and thus should also be allowed.

Claims 68-70, depend on allowable independent claim 63, and thus should also be allowed.

CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that the pending claims 1-6, 16-18, and 55-70 are in proper condition for allowance and an action to such effect is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

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Respectfully submitted,

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